

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



January 27, 1992

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-06-92

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act

The purpose of this letter is to provide information about the Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act (H.R. 3575) which was signed into law by President Bush on November 15, 1991. The Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act provides extended benefits to long-term unemployed workers, to ex-service members and agricultural workers.

Extended unemployment benefits received by an AFDC applicant/recipient are treated as unearned income (MPP Section 44-101, 44-101.3 and 44-101.53). Extended unemployment benefits received by a Food Stamp applicant/recipient are treated as unearned income to the household (MPP Section 63-502.142).

BENEFITS FOR LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYED WORKERS

Emergency unemployment benefits may be extended to long-term unemployed workers who file claims before June 13, 1992. The new emergency extended benefits period reaches back to California workers who exhausted their unemployment insurance claims on or after March 1, 1991. Extended benefits may be available for eligible unemployed workers who file claims for weeks beginning November 17, 1991 through June 13, 1992.

BENEFITS FOR EX-SERVICE MEMBERS

Under H.R. 3575, unemployment benefits for ex-service members will be permanently extended from a maximum of 13 weeks to a maximum of 26 weeks.

BENEFITS FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

Agricultural workers unemployed due to last winter's freeze and receiving extended benefits will continue to receive extended benefits. Total eligibility for extended benefits for these workers will remain at 26 weeks.

Workers in Imperial and Riverside Counties who are out of work due to whitefly crop damage may also be eligible to receive federal extended emergency benefits. This includes workers who have exhausted their unemployment benefits since March 1, 1991.

PAYMENT OF BENEFITS

The Employment Development Department (EDD) field offices began accepting claims for extended benefits on November 18, 1991. The benefits will be paid biweekly. The first initial payments for the first biweekly claim period will be processed and mailed to claimants beginning on December 2, 1991.

EDD is sending notices to all claimants who have exhausted their benefits since March 1, 1991, and to individuals with military claims to advise them that they may be entitled to additional benefits. Under federal law, claimants for extended benefits will be required to show evidence of daily job search activities and to avail themselves of suitable available employment or forgo benefits.

NOTE: The eligibility criteria for emergency extended benefits established by H.R. 3575 are more stringent than the criteria used to calculate California's standard unemployment benefits. A claimant's base period earnings must total 40 times their weekly benefit amount.

If you have any questions or need further information regarding treatment of this income in the AFDC program, please contact LeAnne Torres of the Welfare Policy Implementation Bureau at (916) 654-1047 or ATSS 464-1047. For questions regarding treatment of this income in the Food Stamp program, please call the Food Stamp Policy Implementation Unit at (916) 654-1322 or ATSS 464-1322.

Sincerely,



ROBERT A. HOREL
Deputy Director